

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 07086 131732Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO FAA BRUSSELS 1714

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UNCLAS ATHENS 7086

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BENC, BEXP, MARR, GR

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: ATHENS AIRPORT

REF: ATHENS 6517

1. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS
RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED RELOCATION TO SPATA OF THE EXISTING ATHINAI
AIRPORT AT ELLINIKON. THESE DECISIONS WERE ADOPTED AT A MEETING
ON JULY 9 CHAIRED BY COORDINATION MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS AND ALSO
ATTENDED BY MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER RALLIS, PUBLIC WORKS
MINISTER STRATOS, AND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER
VOYATZIS.

A. SPATE AIRPORT

1. MASTER PLAN: THE CONSORTIUM OF AEROPORT DE PARIS/
FLUGHAFEN FRANKFURT MAIN/ARONIS-DRETTAS-KARLAFTIS HAS BEEN
COMMISSIONED TO PREPARE THE MASTER PLAN IN FOUR MONTHS.
COMMENT: A SENIOR CAA OFFICIAL ASSERTED THAT THE
CONSORTIUM HAS ALREADY DONE A PORTION OF THE MATER PLAN DURING
PREVIOUS CONTRACTS.

2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT: TRANSPORT MINISTER

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PAGE 02 ATHENS 07086 131732Z

VOYATZIS HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE A FOREIGN CONSULTANT

THROUGHOUT THE ENGINEERING PHASE, AND POSSIBLY FOR CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION AS WELL. SELECTION WILL BE PRECEDED BY INVITATION TO DECLARE INTEREST.

3. PRELIMINARY DESIGN (ENGINEERING REPORT), AND FINAL DESIGN (CONSTRUCTION DRAWING); THE PROCEDURE FOR AWARDED THESE TWO CONTRACTS WILL BE DETERMINED IN FIFTEEN DAYS. MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF LOCAL CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRMS WILL BE MADE.

PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER STRATOS HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO INCLUDE THE SPATA AIRPORT IN THE OVERALL AREA MASTER PLAN. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WILL DO ITS BEST TO EXPEDITE PAYMENT TO OWNERS THE VALUE OF EXPROPRIATED LAND AT SPATA.

B. IMPROVEMENT OF ATHINAI AIRPORT

1. THREE-MEMBER COMMITTEE (GENERAL ELIAS DEROS, CAA GOVERNOR; CAPTAIN EMMANUEL VASSILIADIS, OLYMPIC GENERAL MANAGER; AND MAJOR GENERAL CONSTANTINE PAPASYPRIDIS, AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INSPECTOR) HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO PROPOSE MEASURES FOR THE GRADUAL RELOCATION OF GREEK AIR FORCE FACILITIES.

2. TEN MILLION DRACHMAS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT AT MARATHON.

COMMENT: THE APPROPRIATION WILL BE USED FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDINGS AND THE AIRPORT MAY BECOME OPERATIONAL BY THE END OF 1976.

3. A GREEK CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRM WILL BE COMMISSIONED TO DO A MASTER PLAN IN FOUR MONTHS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE ATHINAI AIRPORT TO MEET TRAFFIC REQUIREMENTS UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE SPATA AIRPORT.

C. AUTOMATION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

A SPECIALIST CONSULTING FIRM WILL BE COMMISSIONED SOONEST TO STUDY THE GRADUAL AUTOMATION OF THE ENTIRE ATC SYSTEM.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 ATHENS 07086 131732Z

COMMENT: ACCORDING TO THE CAA OFFICIAL, A FOREIGN FIRM WILL BE ENGAGED FOR THIS JOB.

2. GENERAL COMMENT: THE EMBASSY WILL TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THAT INTERESTED U.S. FIRMS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE VARIOUS PHASES OF THE PROJECT.

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